



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Alaska Department of Natural Resources**

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### **DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE**

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**RELEASE DATE: MARCH 16, 2009**

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**SUBJECT: PLANT MATERIAL CENTER OFFERS FOUNDATION SEEDS TO ALASKA GROWERS**

The Alaska Plant Materials Center (PMC) is announcing its annual open request period for foundation seeds of grass, grain, and forbs from April 16-30, 2009. A list of the available seed lots, including quantities, varieties, and prices will be posted on the Division of Agriculture's web page immediately prior to the open request period. The seed is available at the PMC located at 5310 South Bodenbug Spur in the Butte.

The PMC produces "foundation and pre-certified" classes of seed which in turn are sold to commercial growers. The growers then produce "certified seed" which eventually is sold to farmers or construction companies. The PMC is also offering more forbs than it has in the past to try and get as many growers from different sectors involved.

Often demand may exceed the available supply of seeds. If this were to happen the Allocation Committee which consists of: The Director of the Division of Agriculture, A representative of the University of Alaska, Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station, A representative of the Alaska Seed Growers Association, and a representative of the PMC will determine the allocation.

A second open request period will be held August 3-17, 2009. Seed that was not available in April may be available during this second period.